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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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SUBJECT: "Time-savers" - Information from the Women's Land Army, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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Here's some time-saving ideas from South Dakota farm women that look like pretty good tips for all homemakers.

You see...South Dakota women are planning to spend all the time they can possibly spare from housework in the fields...this year. And that's why they're so interested in ideas that will save time in the house. They want to help South Dakota farmers meet their food production goals..this year. And they know that's going to be a real job. Food goals are just as high...this year...as last.

These South Dakota time-savers were worked out with farm work in mind...of course. But the ideas apply in any kitchen. And who knows...you may decide to get in touch with your county agricultural agent and do some farm work yourself. Farmers everywhere are again counting heavily on the help of townspeople.

Now for the time-savers:

Pick out the kettles and pans you use the most frequently. Place them where you must use them. Don't stack them...and don't store them where you must stoop for them.

Plan the right tool for the job. For example...sharp knives and a good stiff vegetable brush. Put them where you can get them without hunting. Then put useless gadgets away.

Put the food shelf in order. And here's an angle that may not have occurred to you. Check through the canned goods on hand. Store those you plan to use where you can get at them easily. List and purchase needed supplies. Frequent trips to

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the grocery store for emergency items...take time.

Plan and prepare for your family's food needs. And... do what "beforehand" food preparation you can...for example...make cookies that keep...sandwich spreads and quick mixes for biscuits..cream sauce...and the like.

Set up a pattern for breakfast..dinner...and supper...so that you'll make a point of preparing adequate...well-balanced meals for your family. Here's the suggestion from the South Dakota time-saver sheet-for breakfast...fruit juice or fruit...cooked cereal...eggs or bacon...toast and a beverage. (And a time-saver for breakfast is to have a number of cans of fruit or tomato juice ready...so they can be served quickly.)

For the noon meal...the South Dakota homemaker serves only one hot dish. Saves time in cooking...it's easier to serve...and saves time in dishwashing. She'll serve raw vegetables to go with the one nutritious hot dish...bread...and for dessert...sauce and cookies. Suggestion for the evening menu is that of the main meal...meat...potatoes...cooked vegetables and a simple dessert.

To save time on dish washing...the South Dakota farm wife has a liberal supply of clean tea towels and dish cloths at hand.

Biggest factor in time-saving in the house is the cooperation of the entire family. And to enlist the cooperation of Dad...Sister Sue and John and the baby... the homemaker discusses the work to be done with them. The work is divided into jobs...and each member of the family agrees to do a share in the weekly schedule.

Planning...shortcuts...and family sharing in the work...makes it possible for the South Dakota farm woman to get her housework done quickly. And then she's able to help her farmer-husband meet his food production goal.

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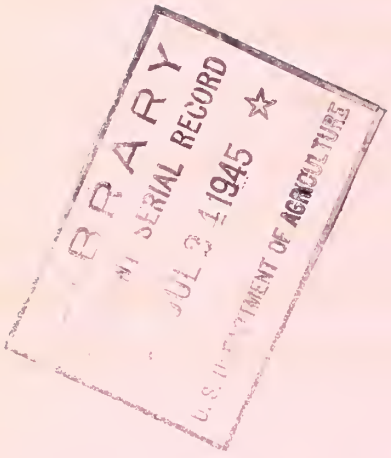
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